

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A mixing apparatus for mixing livestock feed, said apparatus comprising:

a container ~~for the reception of feed~~ configured to be pulled in a direction of travel and to receive feed;

said container including:

a floor,

a wall extending away from said floor, such that substantially all of said wall is disposed above said floor, said wall defining a top opening disposed remote from said floor for the reception therethrough of the feed, said floor and said wall defining therebetween an enclosure for the feed received through the top opening;

a discharge opening in said wall; and

an auger disposed within said enclosure, said auger having an axis of rotation extending substantially vertically through the floor,

said wall further including a first side and a second side positioned on opposing sides of the enclosure, said first side and said second side being disposed substantially parallel to ~~[[a]]~~ the direction of travel of the mixing apparatus,

each of said sides being disposed at dissimilar angles relative to said floor.

Claim 2 (Original): The mixing apparatus of claim 1 wherein said first side is disposed substantially vertical relative to said floor.

Claim 3 (Original): The mixing apparatus of claim 1 wherein said first side and said second side are not symmetrical.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): A mixing apparatus for mixing livestock feed, said apparatus comprising:

a container for the reception of feed;

said container including:

a floor,

a wall extending away from said floor, such that substantially all of said wall is disposed above said floor, said wall defining a top opening disposed remote from said floor for the reception therethrough of the feed, said floor and said wall defining therebetween an enclosure for the feed received through the top opening;

an auger disposed within said enclosure, said auger having an axis of rotation extending substantially vertically through the floor,

said wall further including a first side and a second side positioned on opposing sides of the enclosure, each of said sides being disposed at dissimilar angles relative to said floor;

the mixing apparatus further comprising an undercarriage disposed adjacent and underneath said floor,

said undercarriage including;

a hitch,

a set of wheels,

a floor centerline parallel to a direction of travel of said wheels, said hitch being disposed off-center from said floor centerline.

Claim 5 (Original): The mixing apparatus of claim 1, wherein an absolute value of a difference between the angles of the first and second sides comprises a range of 10 to 30 degrees.

Claim 6 (Previously Presented): The mixing apparatus of claim 5, wherein the range comprises 15 to 25 degrees.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): A mixing apparatus for mixing livestock feed, said apparatus comprising:

a container ~~for the reception of feed~~ configured to be pulled in a direction of travel
and to receive feed;

said container including:

a floor,

a wall extending away from said floor, such that substantially all of said wall is disposed above said floor, said wall defining a top opening disposed remote from said floor for the reception therethrough of the feed, said floor and said wall defining therebetween an enclosure for the feed received through the opening;

a discharge opening in said wall; and

an auger disposed within said enclosure, said auger having an axis of rotation extending substantially vertically through the floor,

said wall further including a first end and a second end positioned on opposing sides of the enclosure,

said wall further including a first side and a second side positioned on opposing sides of the enclosure, said first side and said second side being disposed substantially parallel to ~~[[a]]~~ the direction of travel of the mixing apparatus,

a first angle between said second side and said axis of rotation being greater than a second angle between said first side and said axis of rotation.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented): The mixing apparatus of claim 7 wherein said first side is disposed substantially vertical relative to said floor.

Claim 9 (Previously Presented): The mixing apparatus of claim 7 wherein said first side and said second side are not symmetrical.

Claim 10 (Previously Presented): The mixing apparatus of claim 7 wherein said discharge opening is located in said second side of said wall and adjacent to said floor.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): The mixing apparatus of claim 24 wherein said discharge opening is adjacent to said first end.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): A mixing apparatus for mixing livestock feed, said apparatus comprising:

a container for the reception of feed;

said container including:

a floor,

a wall extending away from said floor, such that substantially all of said wall is disposed above said floor, said wall defining a top opening disposed remote from said floor for the reception therethrough of the feed, said floor and said wall defining therebetween an enclosure for the feed received through the opening; and

an auger disposed within said enclosure, said auger having an axis of rotation extending substantially vertically through the floor,

said wall further including a first end and a second end positioned on opposing sides of the enclosure,

said wall further including a first side and a second side positioned on opposing sides of the enclosure,

a first angle between said second side and said axis of rotation being greater than a second angle between said first side and said axis of rotation,

the mixing apparatus further comprising an undercarriage disposed adjacent and underneath said floor,

said undercarriage including;

- a hitch,
- a set of wheels,
- a floor centerline parallel to a direction of travel of said wheels,
- said hitch being disposed off-center from said floor centerline.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): The mixing apparatus of claim 7, wherein an absolute value of a difference between the first and second angles comprises a range of 10 to 30 degrees.

Claim 14 (Original): The mixing apparatus of claim 13, wherein the range comprises 15 to 25 degrees.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): A mixing apparatus for mixing livestock feed, said apparatus comprising:

a container for the reception of feed and configured to be pulled in a direction of travel;

said container including:

a floor,

a wall extending away from said floor, such that substantially all of said wall is disposed above said floor, said wall defining a top opening disposed remote from said floor for the reception therethrough of the feed, said floor and said wall defining therebetween an enclosure for the feed received through the opening;

an auger, including an upper end ~~unsupported by external supports~~ exposed without obstruction to the wall around an entire circumference of the upper end, and a lower end, disposed within said enclosure, said auger having an axis of rotation extending substantially vertically through the floor,

said wall further including a first side and a second side positioned on opposing sides of the enclosure, said first side and said second side being disposed substantially parallel to a direction of travel of the mixing apparatus,

a distance between said axis of rotation and an upper part of said first side of said wall being shorter than a distance between said axis of rotation and an upper part of said second side of said wall as viewed from the direction of travel.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented): The mixing apparatus of claim 15 wherein said first side is disposed substantially vertical relative to said floor.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented): The mixing apparatus of claim 15 wherein said first side and said second side are not symmetrical.

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): A mixing apparatus for mixing livestock feed, said apparatus comprising:

a container configured to receive feed and configured to be pulled in a direction of travel;

said container including:

a floor,

a wall extending away from said floor, such that substantially all of said wall is disposed above said floor, said wall defining a top opening disposed remote from said floor for the reception therethrough of the feed, said floor and said wall defining therebetween an enclosure for the feed received through the opening;

an auger disposed within said enclosure, said auger having an axis of rotation extending substantially vertically through the floor,

said wall further including a first side and a second side positioned on opposing sides of the enclosure,

a distance between said axis of rotation and an upper part of said first side of said wall being shorter than a distance between said axis of rotation and an upper part of said second side of said wall as viewed from the direction of travel, and the mixing apparatus further comprising an undercarriage disposed adjacent and underneath said floor,

said undercarriage including:

a hitch,

a set of wheels,

a floor centerline parallel to a direction of travel of said wheels,

said hitch being disposed off-center from said floor centerline.

Claim 19 (Canceled).

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): The mixing apparatus of claim 15 further comprising an undercarriage including:

a hitch,

a set of wheels,

a floor centerline parallel to a direction of travel of said wheels, said hitch being disposed off-center from said floor centerline.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): The mixing apparatus of claim 2, wherein the discharge opening is disposed in said second side.

Claim 22 (Previously Presented): The mixing apparatus of claim 15, further comprising a discharge opening in said second side.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): The mixing apparatus of claim 4, further comprising a discharge opening in said wall.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented): The mixing apparatus of claim 10, wherein said discharge opening is in a position off-center in said second side.

Claim 25 (Previously Presented): The mixing apparatus of claim 1, wherein said first side is disposed vertical relative to said floor.

Claim 26 (Previously Presented): The mixing apparatus of claim 7, wherein said first side is disposed vertical relative to said floor.

Claim 27 (Previously Presented): The mixing apparatus of claim 15, wherein said first side is disposed vertical relative to said floor.

Claim 28 (Previously Presented): The mixing apparatus of claim 1, wherein said first side and said second side are disposed parallel to a direction of travel of the mixing apparatus.

Claim 29 (Previously Presented): The mixing apparatus of claim 7, wherein said first side and said second side are disposed parallel to a direction of travel of the mixing apparatus.

Claim 30 (Previously Presented): The mixing apparatus of claim 15, wherein said first side and said second side are disposed parallel to a direction of travel of the mixing apparatus.

Claim 31 (Previously Presented): The mixing apparatus of claim 15, wherein a distance between said axis of rotation and a lower part of said first side of said wall is equal to a distance between said axis of rotation and a lower part of said second side of said wall as viewed from the direction of travel.

Claim 32 (Currently Amended): A mixing apparatus for mixing livestock feed, said apparatus comprising:

a container for the reception of feed;

said container including:

a floor,

a wall extending away from said floor, such that substantially all of said wall is disposed above said floor, said wall defining a top opening disposed remote from said floor for the reception therethrough of the feed, said floor and said wall defining therebetween an enclosure for the feed received through the top opening;

a discharge opening in said wall; and

an auger disposed within said enclosure, said auger having a top part, a bottom part, and an axis of rotation extending substantially vertically through the floor,

said wall further including a first side and a second side positioned on opposing sides of the enclosure, and a third side and a fourth side positioned on opposing sides of the enclosure, tops of each of the first and second sides being nearer to the top part of the auger than tops of each of the third and fourth sides, bottoms of each of the first, second, third and fourth sides being the same distance from the bottom part of the auger, and each of said first and second sides being disposed at dissimilar angles relative to said floor.